

From: Gary Fisher
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

24 January, 2002

Department of Justice
Antitrust Division
RE: Microsoft Settlement

For the sake of our future, please pursue the Microsoft situation vigorously.

While its roots lie in the good soil of hard work and competition, Microsoft has since become overgrown and now depends on the thorns of predatory practices to overcome those who would hope to compete fairly. Many fine companies, and, worse, many talented individuals, have been crushed by Microsoft's willingness to undermine the prices charged by even the most modest competitors; to preemptively strike at consumer and investor confidence in potentially competitive products; and to bully those who survive its other tactics out of the marketplace.

Microsoft did much in the past to help create and build the technology industry, but has since turned from innovation to reaction, often adopting and ultimately controlling the intellectual developments of others rather than competing on the basis of its own creativity. The dreams of those who might be inspired to develop competing products languish under the pall of Microsoft's demonstrated willingness to prevent competition. The future of the industry, and perhaps of those who depend on it, is in jeopardy if the free market continues to be negated by Microsoft's monopolistic practices.

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